

Mission Matters

delicious DESTINATIONS

SPECIAL EDITION

Sip, Savor & Support
A Coastal Speakeasy Awaits



2024 DELICIOUS DESTINATIONS COMMITTEE



Ascension St. Vincent's
Foundation

Why We Do It

Dear Friends of the Foundation,

As we prepare for the 22nd annual Delicious Destinations, we are filled with gratitude and a renewed sense of purpose. This event is more than just an opportunity to enjoy exquisite food and wine; it is a chance to unite around our shared Mission and reaffirm our commitment to those who rely on our services. Delicious Destinations has always been a celebration of community, generosity, and the remarkable impact we can achieve together. Your unwavering support is the cornerstone of our success, enabling us to provide vital services to those in need.

Our foundation staff remains steadfast in our commitment to our Mission. Every day, we are inspired by the stories of hope and healing that emerge from our programs. However, we must convey the urgency of our situation. Without the necessary funds, these programs will not be able to provide the life-changing care that many of our neighbors simply will not survive without. Your participation saves lives.

The Mobile Health Ministry delivers critical care to the working poor and our most vulnerable populations. The Brighter Beginnings program ensures healthier starts for our infants. The Good Samaritan Fund offers emergency assistance to patients in crisis. These programs all depend on your generosity to continue their vital work.

We are driven by the passion we have for the causes we support. We see firsthand the transformative power of your generosity, and it fuels our determination to go above and beyond in our efforts. Each donation, every act of kindness, and all forms of support contribute to creating a healthier and more compassionate community.

Your continued support is crucial. Without it, the essential services provided by our programs are at risk. We ask you to help us ensure that these programs not only survive but thrive.

Thank you for your continued support and belief in our Mission. Together, we are making a profound impact, and we couldn't do it without you. We are excited to see what we can achieve in the year ahead, and we are honored to have you by our side on this journey.

With heartfelt gratitude,

The Foundation Staff



The Chefs Curating Your Experience

CELEBRITY CHEF BY THE SEA LUNCHEON FEATURED CHEF



Chef Colin McClimans – Executive Chef & Owner, *Nina May and Opal restaurants in D.C.*

We are thrilled to introduce our 2024 Celebrity Chef by the Sea, Colin McClimans. A native Washingtonian, Chef McClimans' culinary passion ignited at a young age, working alongside his father in the city's kitchens. His journey has led him from prestigious roles in major kitchens nationwide to his celebrated return to Washington, D.C. Chef McClimans is the visionary behind Nina May, a New American restaurant renowned for its seasonal, locally sourced fare, and Opal, a Michelin-recognized coastal American eatery. This fall, he and his partner will debut their latest venture, Elena James, in Chevy Chase, Md. Join us to experience the exceptional flavors of Chef McClimans' innovative cuisine by the sea.

MAIN EVENT CHEFS

Nathan Beriau – Executive Chef
Montage Palmetto Bluff

Bogdan Boerean – Executive Chef
The Mar-a-Lago Club

Robert DeGrassi – Executive Chef
The River Club

Garrett Gooch – Executive Chef
The Ritz Carlton, Amelia Island

Tom Gray – Executive Chef
Prati Italia and Town Hall

Scott Maurer – Executive Chef
Ocean Key

Steve Mengel – Chef Administrator
The Greenbrier

Hermann Muller – Executive Chef
Ponte Vedra Inn & Club

Paige Murray – Pastry Chef
Ponte Vedra Inn & Club

Darin Sehnert – Owner-Chef
Chef Darin's Kitchen Table

Tim Turner – Executive Chef
Epping Forest Yacht Club

Cameron Walton – Executive Chef
The Lodge

Daniel Zeal – Culinary Director
Sea Island Company



What It Is

A COASTAL SPEAKEASY AWAITS

Get ready for the 22nd annual Delicious Destinations, presented by Miller Electric Company, set for September 6 and 7 at the elegant Ponte Vedra Inn & Club. This year's event, themed Sip, Savor & Support: A Coastal Speakeasy Awaits, will transport you back to the roaring 1920s, offering a uniquely enchanting experience of fine food and wine.

delicious DESTINATIONS

Jacksonville's Premier Food & Wine Event

EST. 2001

EVENT DETAILS

The celebration kicks off with a celebrity chef luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, September 6, followed by a grand dinner from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, September 7. Attendees will indulge in culinary masterpieces from 14 top chefs, which represent prestigious venues such as The Mar-a-Lago Club, the Ritz-Carlton Amelia Island, Town Hall, and Epping Forest Yacht Club.

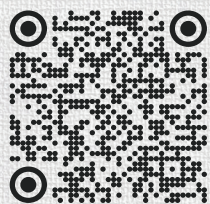
SUPPORTING COMMUNITY HEALTH

Delicious Destinations is more than a culinary event; it is a vital annual fundraiser for Ascension St. Vincent's Community Outreach programs. Proceeds support the Mobile Health Ministry, Brighter Beginnings, and Good Samaritan ministries. These programs provide free healthcare services, medical management, essential equipment, and health education to thousands of vulnerable individuals each year.

LEADERSHIP AND GRATITUDE

The event is chaired by Dr. Abdi Abbassi and his wife Kristina Abbassi, along with Dr. Valery Muenyi and his wife Dr. Sofia Muenyi. Dr. Abbassi expressed his enthusiasm:

"Our involvement in Delicious Destinations is driven by a deep commitment to supporting healthcare access for all. The funds raised from this event make a significant difference in the lives of many, and we are grateful for the community's continued support."



JOIN US

Join us for an unforgettable weekend at Delicious Destinations, where you can enjoy exquisite food and wine while making a meaningful impact on your community. Visit GiveStVincents.org to learn more about the event, register for tickets, sponsor the event, or donate to the silent auction. Together, we can Sip, Savor, and Support those who need it most.

VOICES OF SUPPORT

"Our Mobile Health Ministry delivers essential care directly to those who need it most, including many hard-working individuals who are just trying to make ends meet. For these individuals, a health crisis or even a routine doctor's visit can lead to severe financial strain on these families. By bringing our services directly into their communities, we ensure that the working poor, homeless, and uninsured receive the critical health services and medications they need to avoid these dire consequences."

- Coleen Rickey,
Mobile Health Outreach Manager

"Brighter Beginnings, a maternal health program, is crucial to expectant women and mothers with infants under the age of one, who face significant challenges, including the working poor and those struggling with economic instability. Our program provides essential holistic education and support to help these families overcome barriers to prenatal and infant care. By addressing gaps in knowledge and resources, we ensure that every mother and baby has a safer start and a better chance at a healthy life. Our unwavering commitment is to transform lives and make a profound difference in our community, despite the difficulties and barriers."

- Willie Roberts,
Brighter Beginnings Program Leader

"The Good Samaritan Fund helps patients who qualify for emergency assistance. Our Good Samaritan Fund offers a range of services, such as providing medications for patients who could not be safely discharged without assistance, helping patients find transportation if they have no vehicle or reliable support, connecting underinsured patients with medical equipment and basic necessities for their continued healing, and funding temporary shelter for unhoused patients who need a place to recuperate following care. These services are essential for our patients' recovery and well-being, and we are deeply grateful for the support that allows us to continue this vital work."

- Gabrielle Maholanyi,
Case Management Assistant

How It Helps

GOOD SAMARITAN FUND: TRANSFORMING LIVES

Meet Micheal, who faced a tough year after losing his job due to a warehouse fire. Without income, he became homeless and sought refuge at Trinity Rescue Mission. He was sent to the ER with a persistent wound, which turned out to be basal cell carcinoma. With support from our Good Samaritan Fund, we provided him with emergency housing at Sulzbacher Respite, medical care, and transportation to appointments. Micheal is deeply appreciative for our care as he continues to heal and rebuild his life. Your support not only offers hope to those in need, but helps transform lives. Thank you for your continued generosity and commitment.



KELLY'S SUCCESS WITH BRIGHTER BEGINNINGS

Kelly's journey with Brighter Beginnings has been truly transformative. She initially joined our program to seek support, education, and confidence while raising her daughter. Now, she is passing on the knowledge and skills she has gained to other young mothers. She shared that the care she received made an immediate positive impact on her parenting.



"The monthly classes have provided a unique sense of community and invaluable support. Willie Roberts and her team pour their hearts into creating a space where women from all walks of life can learn about parenting and personal health. I thought I knew a lot, but the program offered new insights that have enriched my parenting," said Kelly. "Brighter Beginnings has made a profound impact on me, offering new perspectives and essential connections. It's a gem that truly deserves our support."

LAURA'S JOURNEY WITH MOBILE HEALTH

Laura, a 62-year-old from Clay County, faced a significant life change in 2010. She left her job to care for her aging parents and a brother with cancer, which resulted in the loss of her own healthcare insurance.

Her challenging path took an encouraging turn when she encountered our Mobile Health bus at Springs Baptist Church. During a health screening, the team noted her dangerously high blood pressure and addressed it with immediate care and support.

"I owe it all to the bus! I'm grateful for the care and kindness I received. Because of this bus and the team, I'm in good health today," said Laura. Laura continues to visit our clinic regularly for medication and blood sugar testing supplies, and feels deeply supported by our community. Thank you for making such vital care possible!



Extending Gratitude to Our Supporters

OUR COMMITTEE

As we finish preparing for the 22nd Annual Delicious Destinations event, we extend our deepest thanks to our extraordinary committee. This event simply could not happen without the tireless efforts and unwavering dedication of:

Co-Chairs: Dr. Abdi & Kristina Abbassi / Dr. Valery Muenyi & Dr. Sofia Muenyi

Committee Members:

Brooke Acosta-Rua
Nayla Chahlavi
Katherine Gabriel
Nina Garas

Jean Grimsley
Pam Johnson
Jenny Kashman

Jennifer Livingston
Jane Magpusao
Carrie Miller-Kafrouni

Jennifer New
Neetal Oza
Jenn Proia

Katherine Shibani
Karin Stottman
Charise Szwed
Jan Walsh

OUR SPONSORS

Our sponsors are the most essential part of every Delicious Destinations event. Together with our event attendees, they are responsible for raising the funds that support our Mission. Thank you all for ensuring our compassionate healthcare is available to everyone in Northeast Florida.

PRESENTING SPONSOR



LUNCHEON SPONSOR



PREVIEW RECEPTION SPONSOR



WINE SPONSOR

**WALSH INVESTMENT
CONSULTING GROUP**
OF NFLA FINANCIAL PARTNERS
Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network

SPEAKEASY LOUNGE SPONSOR



MEDIA SPONSOR

THE RECORDER

EVENT PARTNERS



**Ascension St. Vincent's
Foundation**

Office: 904-308-7306 | **Email:** TheFoundation@ascension.org | 1 Shircliff Way, Jacksonville, FL, 32204 | **GiveStVincents.org**



@GiveStVincents



@GiveStVincents



[linkedin.com/company/GiveStVincents](https://www.linkedin.com/company/GiveStVincents)